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W. A. KELLERMAN, PH. D., COLUMBUS, OHIO.

EDITOR'S NOTES.

There seems to be a difference of opinion, at least a difference in practice, in regard to the proper mode of giving the *date* in a citation from a periodical publication — and therefore the editor is provoked to make a comment.

First, let the question be raised, as to where in the periodical the *actual date of issue* should be printed. Only one answer can, it seems to us, be given, namely, *at the bottom of the last page*. Most of the periodicals follow this plan; a few however give this date in the subsequent No., Part or Heft, a plan that is very objectionable. It precludes citing anything in the No. until the next No. appears; it adds to the labor of making a citation or of getting the exact date since it always requires consulting two Nos. instead of one.

If a periodical repeats on the first page of each of the issues its name, *date*, etc., that date (even if only the *month* and year) should appear in making the citation instead of the actual date of the issue which might be found on the last page or on the cover. Thus if Saccardo's article in the Feb. (1906) No. of Annales be cited, the date ought to be as here given, and not "5 April 1906", which was the actual date of issue. Citation is primarily for place to direct the reader. If one were referred to "5 April 1906" for the article he would hardly search for a *Feb. No.* — but rather for an "April No." (It might be desirable to give in parenthesis after the date-designation of the No., also the actual date of issue.) If, however, the citation, for example pertain to the article in Hedwigia, Band XLV., Heft 3, by Magnus, it would necessarily be as to date, "28 Mar. 1906." (No date other than that of the actual date of issue is printed.) This is given only on the cover — of course given at the end of the year or close of the volume in connection with the title-page, etc.